

COMPREHENSIVE FISH AND WILDLIFE RULES ENHANCEMENT PROJECT

The opportunity for the public to submit suggestions for substantive rule amendments closed on April 1, 2009. Approximately 1,000 suggestions were received and have now been sorted into five categories, some including sub-categories, identified as follows:

1. Advisory Council Rule Suggestion Review: Hunting Birds, Administrative Cause 09-084D

Includes these Sub-Categories:

- Doves
- Crow/Bag Limits & Season Length
- Waterfowl/Habitat Fish & Wildlife Areas
- Waterfowl/Draw Hunts
- Waterfowl/Methods
- Waterfowl/Seasons
- Waterfowl/Bag Limits
- Pheasant/Draw Hunts
- Pheasant/Season Regulations
- Quail/Increase Season Length & Decrease Bag Limit
- Ruffed Grouse/Improve Populations, Habitat Management
- Turkey/Draw Hunts
- Turkey/Increase Spring Bag Limit
- Turkey/One License Annually
- Turkey/Season Regulation (Length, Zone, Hours, Misc.)
- Miscellaneous

2. Advisory Council Rule Suggestion Review: Hunting, Trapping, Taking Mammals/Except Deer, Administrative Cause 09-085D

Includes these Sub-Categories:

- License Fee Structure/Added Types of Licenses
- Youth Licenses
- Senior/Low Income Licenses
- Lifetime Licenses
- Coyote/Year Round Season
- Coyote/Holding Furs for Marketing
- Opossum & Raccoon/Extend Season
- Squirrel/Extend Season
- Squirrel/Change Season
- Exotic Mammals
- Hunter Education
- Cotton Tail Rabbit
- Miscellaneous Licensure Suggestions
- Miscellaneous Suggestions

3. Advisory Council Rule Suggestion Review: Fishing/Except Trout & Salmon on the Brookville Tail waters, Administrative Cause 09-086D
Includes these Sub-Categories:
 - Boating Regulations
 - Waterways & Trespassing
 - Catfish/Other
 - Catfish/Size Limit
 - Catfish/Bag Limit
 - Northern Pike/Decrease Bag Limit & Increase Size
 - Striped Bass/Live Shad
 - Black Bass/Stocking & Habitat
 - Black Bass/Size Limit
 - Black Bass/Season
 - Black Bass/Bag Limit
 - Walleye, Sauger & Saugeye/ Stocking
 - Walleye, Sauger & Saugeye/Size Limit
 - Walleye, Sauger & Saugeye/Methods of Fishing
 - Walleye, Sauger & Saugeye/Bag Limit
 - White Bass, Hybrid Striped Bass/Live Shad
 - White Bass, Hybrid Striped Bass/Bag Limit
 - Yellow Perch/Bag Limit
 - Muskellunge & Tiger Muskellunge/Stocking
 - Muskellunge & Tiger Muskellunge/Stamp+Catch & Release
 - Muskellunge & Tiger Muskellunge/Size Limit
 - Muskellunge & Tiger Muskellunge/Closed Season
 - Crappie/Size Limit
 - Commercial Fishing-Ohio River/Eliminate
 - Commercial Fishing-Lake Michigan/Perch Bag Limit
 - Commercial Fishing. General
 - Methods of Fishing-Ohio River
 - Methods of Fishing/Rods, Lures & Line Fishing
 - Methods of Fishing/Live Bait & Shad
 - Methods of Fishing/Jugging
 - Methods of Fishing/Ice Fishing
 - Methods of Fishing/Cast & Net Size
 - Methods of Fishing/Bow & Spear
 - Licenses/2009 Licenses
 - Licenses/Non-resident Licenses
 - Licenses/Lifetime-Senior Licenses
 - Size Limits & Bag Limits General
 - Blue Gill/Bag Limit
 - Miscellaneous Suggestions
4. Advisory Council Rule Suggestion Review: Fishing-Trout & Salmon on the Brookville Tail waters, Administrative Cause 09-087D

5. Advisory Council Rule Suggestion Review: Hunting, Trapping, Taking Mammals/Deer, Administrative Cause 09-088D
Includes these Sub-Categories:
 - Seasons/Muzzleloader
 - Seasons/Extend Archery
 - Seasons/Move Firearms Out of the Rut
 - Seasons/Doe Only Season
 - Seasons/Reduce Firearms Season
 - Non-Resident Licenses
 - Hunter Orange
 - Buck & Doe Tags
 - 1 License for All Deer Seasons
 - Youth Season
 - Allowing Youth to Take Buck
 - Muzzleloader & Primitive Firearms
 - Increase Rifle Calibers
 - Carry & Load Time Regulations
 - Crossbow during Archery Season
 - Antler Restrictions
 - Ban on Spotlighting
 - Depredation
 - Over-Population/Under-Population
 - One Buck Rule
 - “Earn-A-Buck”
 - Buck Identification
 - 2 Buck (1 Archery & 1 Firearm)
 - Other Suggestions
 - Miscellaneous License Suggestions
6. Advisory Council Rule Suggestion Review: Topics Deferred to NRC Staff, Administrative Cause 09-089D
Includes these Sub-Categories:
 - Wild Animal Possession Permits
 - Disability Hunting Licenses
 - Fish & Wildlife Area User Fees
 - Endangered Species
 - Animal Sanctuary License

The suggestions will be considered by or under the supervision of the Natural Resources Advisory Council, which intends to present its report at the November 17, 2009 Natural Resources Commission meeting.

In keeping with the Advisory Council’s statutorily prescribed responsibility to act in an advisory capacity to the Department of Natural Resources and the Natural Resources Commission, the Advisory Council’s report to the Natural Resources Commission will offer non-binding recommendations. It is expected that in some instances the merit of a

suggestion category might be easily assessed. It is also anticipated that in some cases there will be insufficient opportunity for the Advisory Council to gain a full understanding of the biological aspects, wildlife management implications, fiscal impacts, or interrelationships to other fish and wildlife issues and rules, etc. relating to a suggestion that otherwise appears to be meritorious. With that general premise in mind it is anticipated that the Advisory Council's report will include recommendations to either proceed or not proceed with respect to a suggested rule or will offer the recommendation that the suggestion be referred to the Department of Natural Resources for further study and detailed examination. In the latter instance, the Advisory Council will attempt to identify concerns or issues that the Department of Natural Resources should include within its study.

The Advisory Council also intends to develop additional information on suggestions that will require legislative action. The information gathered will be reported to the Natural Resources Commission and the Department of Natural Resources to be utilized in assessing whether to pursue the necessary legislation.

PUBLIC HEARINGS WILL BE SCHEDULED AS FOLLOWS

The Natural Resources Advisory Council has scheduled public hearings as follows:

June 10, 2009 Hunting, Trapping, Taking Mammals/Except Deer,
Administrative Cause 09-085D

The Garrison, Fort Harrison State Park, 6002 North Post Road, Indianapolis, Indiana.
10:30 AM (EDT)

July, 2009* Hunting, Trapping, Taking Mammals/Deer,
Administrative Cause 09-088D

* Exact Date, Time and Location to Be Announced.

August 12, 2009 Hunting Birds
Administrative Cause 09-084D

The Garrison, Fort Harrison State Park, 6002 North Post Road, Indianapolis, Indiana.
10:30 AM (EDT)

September, 2009* Fishing-Trout & Salmon on the Brookville Tail waters,
Administrative Cause 09-087D

* Exact Date, Time and Location to Be Announced.

October 14, 2009 Fishing-Except Trout & Salmon on the Brookville
Tail waters, Administrative Cause 09-086D

[UPDATE: May 29, 2009]

The Garrison, Fort Harrison State Park, 6002 North Post Road, Indianapolis, Indiana.
10:30 AM (EDT)

The Natural Resources Commission, Division of Hearings will schedule one or more public hearings as follows:

Date To Be Determined Topics Deferred to NRC Staff, Administrative Cause
09-089D

NRC, Division of Hearings Office, Indiana Government Center North, Room N501, 100
North Senate Avenue, Indianapolis, Indiana
Time To Be Determined